

To the Rural District Council of Stoke-upon-Trent.

(PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1895.)

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1906.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the sanitary condition of the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent, with the mortality statistics for the year ending December 31st, 1906.

AREA.—The area is a very scattered one—containing 4,938 acres, and consisting of several villages, Bucknall, Great Eaves, Little Eaves, Stockton Brook, and Bagnall. The latter “Bagnall” which consisted of 89 houses, population 463, was taken from the Stoke-upon-Trent Rural District on September 30th, and joined to the Leek Rural District. But as it was only on the 30th September last when separated, my statistics will include the whole district up to that date.

CENSUS.—The Census was taken in March, 1901, when the population had decreased by 10. The number enumerated was 4,808.

The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, Sections 4 to 9, 13, 14 and 16 to 20, were adopted in the District in 1892, and so much of Part III. of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1890, as is made applicable by Section 50, to the Rural Sanitary District.

The Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milkshops have been regularly inspected once a quarter. There are eight licensed places for slaughtering cattle in the District.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are only three in Bucknall and all except one in very good condition.

PIG-KEEPING.—The pig stys at some of the farm-houses are not kept quite in a satisfactory condition, and require regularly looking at to make the farmer pay attention to them.

NIGHTSOIL.—The nightsoil and ashes are removed by contract, and the work has been done very well, and there have been few complaints this year.

WELLS.—The wells have been regularly visited, and there has been a good supply of pure water at all except that of Jackhay Lane, where the inhabitants have suffered great inconvenience, but since the village has gone over to the Local Authority at Leek, they have ordered the Parish Council to provide a supply or they will execute the necessary work.

FACTORY ACT.—There are nine places under the aforesaid Act, one Brick Yard, two Flint Mills, two Crate Yards, two Boot Shops, and one Blacksmith's.

NOTIFICATIONS.—There have been 45 notifications received, 22 Diphtheria, 1 Croup, 4 Erysipelas, 15 of Scarlet Fever, and 3 Enteric Fever.

One case of Enteric Fever occurred at a farm-house which was in a very unwholesome condition, the drainage defective; no cause could be traced for the others, neither in the milk supply, or any eatables.

Immediately on receipt of a notification the house has been visited by the Inspector, and if the case is not properly isolated, it has been removed, a leaflet upon preventions of the disease left, and after the patient has recovered the house, bedlinen, &c., disinfected. In my opinion many of the cases notified as diphtheria throughout the country are cases of Scarlatina sore throats, as it is a well-known fact that any person who has had one attack and recovered, if exposed to contagion may have a Scarlatina-throat and a very severe attack without any rash.

A good amount of sanitary improvements and work has been done during the past year, many nuisances removed after my first visit without a formal notice, but appended is a table showing what has been executed under the Inspector's supervision. Personally, I have visited with the Inspector 87 houses.

VACCINATION.—There were 173 children born. 119 have been successfully vaccinated, 21 deceased, 5 postponed through illness, 2 left altogether without address, and only 26 unaccounted for

BIRTHS.—There were 173 Births registered during the year, 99 males, 74 females, 9 of these were born out of wedlock, a rate of increase of 34·5 per 1,000 of the estimated population, which is 2 per 1,000 less than the average for the last ten years which was 36·6.

DEATHS.—There were recorded in the Obituary, 131 deaths at an annual death rate of 26·1 per 1,000, but if 68 were deducted that occurred at the Hospital, the corrected rate would be 13·5 as only 68 really belonged to the Rural District. Of these deaths, 8 from Enteric Fever entered in the mortality table, 5 occurred at the Hospital, 40 Scarlatina deaths—where there is an infectious disease hospital in a locality, the death rate seems high because many cases taken there from other localities and really very serious ones, often with very little chance of recovery, are removed because they cannot be properly attended to or perfectly isolated.

The deaths that occurred in the Rural District were, Diarrhœa 3, only 1 from consumption or phthisis, 1 tubercular disease, 1 of cancer, 13 from bronchitis, 6 of these were children ; six cases in old people, 5 of pneumonia and 1 senile decay ; 5 premature births ; 6 from heart disease ; 7 from convulsions ; 2 apoplexy ; 4 accidental death ; 1 from child-birth ; and 2 from malformation.

Of the 131 deaths, 31 were under 1 year—37 from 1 year and under 5 years—30 from 5 years to 15 years—6 from 15 years to 25 years—17 from 25 years to 65 years—10 over 60 years.
Appended is a mortality table showing cause of death.

JOHN SWIFT WALKER, M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Inspector of Nuisances Report for the Year ended December 31st, 1906.

The District has been thoroughly and systematically inspected during the year.

Houses and premises inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	720
Houses disinfected after Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Notices served for Sanitary Amendment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
Manure heaps removed	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Registered Dairies and Cowshops inspected every Quarter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Slaughter Houses inspected every Quarter	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bakehouses inspected every Quarter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Public Wells inspected every Quarter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Whitewash Brushes let out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	164
Infected Bedding disinfected	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	60
Overcrowding of Dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dwelling-houses repaired, cleansed, &c.	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
House drainage and defective traps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Patients removed to Hospital	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	13
Ashpits and Privies repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Animals improperly kept	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water Closets defective	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	10
Factories inspected every Quarter	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	2
Workshops inspected every Quarter	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

The Contractor has removed the nightsoil and ashes satisfactorily for the past twelve months.

GILBERT McHARG.

Births in the Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent during the Year 1906.

	Born in Wed-lock		Born out of Wedlock	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Registered in Washerwall, Bucknall, and Bagnall	...	...	...	...
	95	69	4	5
Total Number of Births Registered	...	...	...	...
	173			

Rural Sanitary District of Stoke-upon-Trent.

Deaths Registered from all Causes during the Year 1906.

CAUSE OF DEATH	AGES.						
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
Measles	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	40	...	25	14	1	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ..	15	...	7	7	1	...	...
Enteric Fever	8	...	...	4	2	1	1
Diarrhœa	3	3	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	3	3	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	1	...	1	..	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	1	...	...	...	...	1	..
Bronchitis	13	6	...	1	..	4	2
Pneumonia	5	1	...	1	1	...	2
Tabes Mesenterica	1	1	...	..	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	2	1	...	1	..	...	...
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Senile Decay	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth	5	5	...	..	...	..	...
Heart Diseases	6	...	...	1	..	2	3
Accidents	4	1	...	...	1	2	..
Hydrocephalus	1	1	...	..	...	..	...
Convulsions	7	5	2	...	...	...	...
Apoplexy	2	...	...	...	..	1	1
Malformation	2	2	..	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility	1	1	...	...	..	...	...
Umbilical Hemorrhage	1	1	..	...	...	...	...
Bright's Disease	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	1	...	...	..	...	1	...
Drowning	2	..	...	...	...	2	...
Hemorrhage	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
All other Causes	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
All Causes	131	31	37	30	6	17	10

Medical Officer's Annual Report
OF THE
Rural District of Stoke-upon-Trent,
For the Year 1906.
